



News From

# JUDY BIGGERT

CONGRESSWOMAN ♦ 13<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT ♦ ILLINOIS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Friday, September 21, 2001**

**CONTACT: Jeff Trexel**  
**(202) 225-3515**

**BIGGERT ANNOUNCES \$100,000 GRANT TO  
BREAKING FREE/WEST CHICAGO YOUTH COMMISSION**

*Federal funds to save "after-school" programs from closing doors*

**Clarendon Hills, Illinois** – The West Chicago Youth Commission, in collaboration with Breaking Free, Inc., has won a \$100,000 federal grant to continue programs to reduce substance abuse among youth in West Chicago, U.S. Representative Judy Biggert (R-13<sup>th</sup>) announced today.

"Community anti-drug coalitions profoundly alter a community's personality for the better by eliminating conditions that foster delinquency, drug use and violence," said Biggert. "The men and women of the West Chicago Youth Commission are doing a wonderful service for their community, the least we can do is fund their highly effective after-school program."

Awarded by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, the grant will finance the opening of four new after-school programs, provide additional resources for after-school programs already in operation and reward youth enrolled in after-school programs with a four week trip to summer camp.

"We're thrilled to hear about the funding -- the program really would die in November without it," said Michael Moran, Executive Director of Breaking Free, a non-profit, substance abuse prevention and counseling agency based in Naperville, Illinois. "This grant allows us to continue breaking down a lot of barriers that keep kids from getting connected in the community and at school."

Earlier today, Rep. Biggert was named to the Speaker's Task Force on a Drug Free America – a group that will advise Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-14<sup>th</sup>) on national drug policy.

"More than 16,000 Americans – many of them children – die each year from drug abuse," said Biggert. "It is our moral obligation to not only keep drugs out of our neighborhoods and schools, but also to educate our children early in life about the perils of substance abuse."

###

1213 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-1313  
(202) 225-3515

115 W. 55<sup>TH</sup> STREET, SUITE 100  
CLARENDON HILLS, IL 60514  
(630) 655-2052

WWW.HOUSE.GOV/BIGGERT

1213 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-1313  
(202) 225-3515

[WWW.HOUSE.GOV/BIGGERT](http://WWW.HOUSE.GOV/BIGGERT)

115 W. 55<sup>TH</sup> STREET, SUITE 100  
CLARENDON HILLS, IL 60514  
(630) 655-2052